

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/857,695	KISO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Devesh Khare	1623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 4/23/04.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,5,8,9 and 12.
3. The drawings filed on 08 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. PCT/JP99/0.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

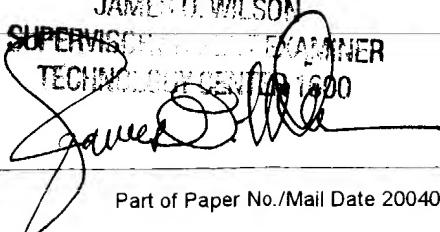
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/24/04.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

JAMES O. WILSON
 SUPERVISOR
 EXAMINER
 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600


Applicant's election of Group I, claims 1,4,5,8,9 and 12 in the reply filed on 04/23/04 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Claims 1,5 and 9 have been amended. Claims 2,3,6,7,10,11 and 13-18 have been cancelled.

The examiner withdraws the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejections in response to the Office Action dated 04/02/03, as being anticipated by Suwa et al. (U.S. Patent 5,939,309). The rejections have been overcome through applicants' amendment to the claims.

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by Paul White on 9/24/04.

Claims 19-27 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 1,4,5,8,9 and 12 are currently pending in this application.

Claims 1,4,5,8,9 and 12 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention relates to a blood ammonia lowering agent, containing xylooligosaccharide containing at least 30 wt% to less than 45 wt% of xylobiose as an active ingredient, is not taught or fairly suggested in the prior art.

The most relevant reference discovered includes Suwa et al. (U.S. Patent 5,939,309).

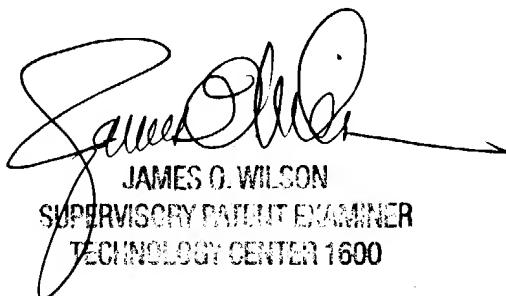
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Suwa et al. disclose a composition comprising a xylooligosaccharide which contains less than 60% of xylobiose as its principal component. Suwa et al. give no specific suggestions, so no anticipatory or obviousness rejection can be applied.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1235.

Devesh Khare, Ph.D.,J.D.
Art Unit 1623
September 24,2004



JAMES O. WILSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600